

NOV 08 2010

Dear Governor McDonnell and EPA Administrator Jackson:

We all want clean water for Virginia and the other areas of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Unfortunately, Virginia's draft Watershed Implementation Plan fails to take the necessary steps to clean Virginia's rivers, lakes and streams that flow into the Chesapeake Bay. Virginia's cleanup plan should be strengthened to assure success, with a step-by-step procedure which includes mandates, funding and deadlines. The plan should include:

- Additional pollution reductions from sewage treatment plants on the lower James River Basin;
- Real mandates and incentives to reduce polluted runoff from cities and farms; and
- Specific two-year actions to achieve actual pollution reductions over the next 15 years in order to have all actions in place by 2025.

If Virginia fails to fulfill its obligation to provide reasonable assurance to clean the Chesapeake Bay, protect our drinking water, our public health, and our fishermen, tourism industry and other water-related jobs, then the EPA should take the following actions:

- Rewrite the Total Maximum Daily Load to maximize reductions from point sources, such as sewage treatment plants and factories;
- Expand Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations to include all Animal Feeding Operations; and
- Assume responsibility for Virginia's waters.

Sincerely,

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Additional Comments (not required):

Our environment, and keeping it healthy, is too important to take a wait-and-see approach. Our government - local, state, & federal - needs to take a proactive approach to lead the efforts to clean up and restore all aspects of our surroundings.

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